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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/527,467	03/17/2000	Naoji Shibasaki	Q58416	2781

7590

09/10/2003

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EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 09/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/527,467

Applicant(s)

SHIBASAKI, NAOJI

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.
3. An Abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: any number appeared on the Abstract should be within the parenthesis.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gershman et al. (US Patent No. 6,401,085) and Hoyt et al. (US Patent No. 6,519,596).

As to claim 1, Gershman teaches an image data management system, comprising:

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a plurality of printing stations (i.e., clients or kiosks on col. 55, line 6) with function to read digital image data, to print the data by performing necessary image processing and to transmit or receive the image data (col. 56, lines 3-27: the application allows the user to print out the hard copy and col. 68, lines 18-21);

a management system connected to each printing station via a network and used for identifying management data of each printing station and for distributing necessary data to each printing station (col. 57, lines 6-8: SM Subsystem includes SMS and Fault Monitoring; col. 57, lines 26-36: each of kiosk is connected with SMS and the status of each of kiosk is monitored and reported to SMS. The status includes the printing status such as paper; col. 57, lines 37-41: the SMS for distributing necessary data to each kiosk).

a server for turning the data being transmitted from each printing station to the management system, to database and for storing the data (col. 56, lines 46-54: the reporting interface subsystem for gathering the information and visual elements).

However, Gershman does not teach the image data from the printing station to the server.

Hoyt teaches the image data from the printing station to the server (col. 8, lines 65-67).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of for providing the image data from each kiosk to the public server as taught by Hoyt. The suggestion for modifying the system of Gershman can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Hoyt because the modified system would increase the functionalities of Kiosks for providing the captured image to the public Internet for any purpose.

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As to claim 2, Gershman discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Gershman further teaches that the image data turned to data base has image categories as attribute information (i.e., log information related to business products such as image data on col. 56, lines 50-54).

As to claim 3, Gershman discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Gershman further teaches that the image data turned to database contains information for public disclosure of the image as attribute information (col. 47, lines 42-51).

As to claim 4, Gershman discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Gershman further teaches of that the management system performs remote controlled maintenance on each printing station based on a management data (col. 57, lines 12).

As to claim 5, Gershman discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Gershman further teaches that in the printing station, the user can specify an image to be printed as well as an image to be transferred to and stored in the management system from the image displayed on a monitor screen (col. 56, lines 17 and 46-50).

As to claim 6, Gershman discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Gershman further teaches that the printing station comprises a photographing equipment and a photograph for certification purposes can be prepared (col. 56, lines 5-10).

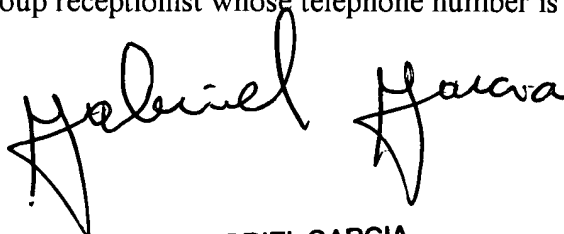
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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
Sep. 03, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabriel Garcia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gabriel" and the last name "Garcia" clearly distinguishable.

**GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER**